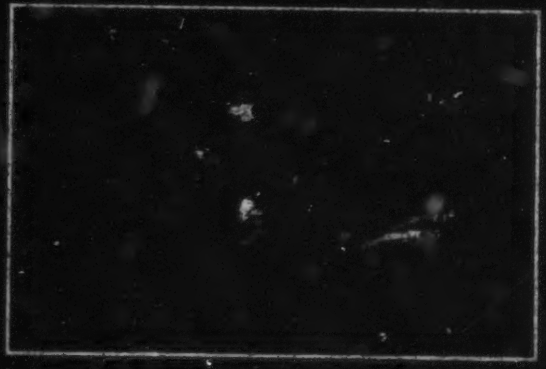
the metropolitan toronto and region conservation authority

ANNUAL REPORT 1991



MISSION STATEMENT

The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority is a provincial/municipal partnership established in 1957, under the Conservation Authorities Act, to manage the renewable natural resources of the region's watersheds.

Metro Region Conservation, with one-third of Ontario's population within its area of jurisdiction, acts in the community's interest through advocating and implementing watershed management programs that

- maintain and improve the quality of the region's lands and waters;
- contribute to public safety from flooding and erosion;
- provide for the acquisition of conservation and hazard lands; and
- enhance the quality and variety of life in the community by using its lands for inter-regional outdoor recreation, heritage preservation and conservation education.

Metro Region Conservation shall seek to fulfil its mission and serve the needs of its constituency in accordance with the highest standards of ethics and integrity.

(Cover) A special moment on the Don.

92-07962/

Looking to the Future

"If our Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority is to succeed in our goals of watershed stewardship and conservation awareness, we must coordinate with knowledgeable and active citizens and interest groups across our jurisdiction. At the present time, the Greater Toronto Area is in a sort of uneasy balance - approximately 21% of our land mass is urbanized, and another 21% is still forested. Our short-term goal will be the establishment of links, trails and networks out to the residents across our watershed, and our long-term goal must be wise use, stewardship and restoration of our magnificent tributaries, streams, rivers, waterfront and land base. We must strive to achieve our balance."

"The route won't be easy. Nothing less significant than the dynamic health of our communities, our natural landscapes, habitats and fundamental quality of life depends on our success. Together, let's open doors, involve new people and encourage and support those already dedicated to conservation. We need to count on each other."

William B. Granger

Excerpts from the Chair's Inaugural Address
36th Annual Meeting, February 21, 1992
The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

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Our Partners

The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto 1953

Ontario

DURHAM

Region of Peel

The Regional Municipality of York

Township of Adjala

Township of Mono

The Association of Conservation Authorities of Ontario

The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
5 Shoreham Drive, Downsview, Ontario. M3N 1S4
Phone: (416) 661-6600
Fax: (416) 661-6898

Our Partners Make Our Conservation Work Possible

METRO Region Conservation gratefully acknowledges the importance of our partners' contribution to our work, especially our greenspace projects.

The Authority recently adopted a new slogan, "Working Together for Tomorrow's Greenspace," to remind people of this outstanding spirit of cooperation.

The Authority could not carry out its work without funding from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources which, in 1991, provided $6.1 million in support of the Authority's programs. The Ministry also provided $62,000 for the Environmental Youth Corps Program.

Other provincial support came from the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications which provided $269,200 for the operation of Black Creek Pioneer Village and for its special projects; the Ontario Ministry of Energy which contributed $215,000 toward the Renewable Energy Program at the Kortright Centre for Conservation; the Ontario Ministry of the Environment which provided $110,300 for the Clean Up Rural Beaches Program, the Construction Practices Study and the Environmental Youth Corps Program; the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs which provided $601,500 toward the Conservation Land Tax Rebate Program; and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food which contributed $26,000 toward Land Stewardship Demonstration Projects.

Metro Region Conservation is also thankful to the Province for a $132,000 contribution made under its special Anti-Recession Program.

As well, the Authority appreciates the contributions of its municipal partners: The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto ($7.3 million), The Regional Municipalities of Durham ($289,000), Peel ($1.2 million) and York ($1.4 million), and the Townships of Adjala ($543) and Mono ($547). They supported the Authority's efforts to fulfil its mandate.

The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto played a significant role in 1991 by raising $1,080,000 for Authority projects, including contributions by Environment Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Mrs. John B. Pangman, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Walker, Q.C., and The R. Samuel McLaughlin Foundation.

Other partners in Authority programs include the local boards of education that financially support the educational programs.

The Association of Conservation Authorities of Ontario (ACAO) provides services to 38 authorities and represents their interests when negotiating with a variety of external agencies on resource management issues. In 1991, the Association celebrated the 50th anniversary of the 1941 Guelph Conference which led to the passing of the Conservation Authorities Act in 1946. The Honourable Bud Wildman, Minister of Natural Resources, was the keynote speaker at Guelph Conference '91 held to commemorate the occasion.

the metropolitan toronto and region conservation authority

Working Together for Tomorrow's Greenspace

Chairman's Remarks

John A. McGinnis

DURING the past year the Authority has taken a number of actions, stemming from numerous reports starting with the Authority's Greenspace Strategy that was adopted in 1989.

Following publication of the Authority's Strategy, the Province ordered a study headed by Ron Kanter, MPP, published under the title "Space For All." The study provides options for a Greater Toronto Area Greenlands Strategy.

In the meantime, the Royal Commission on the Future of the Toronto Waterfront, headed by The Honourable David Crombie, was established by the Federal Government and also given a provincial role. The Commission produced several publications, one of them being "Shoreline Regeneration for the Greater Toronto Bioregion."

Several community and special interest groups have been formed and expressed their views on the many and varied directions conservation might take.

The proliferation of environmental organizations, both official and voluntary, within our region has caused considerable confusion over jurisdiction and resulted in much overlapping effort. There is a great opportunity for the Authority to harness this interest and foster effective liaison amongst all concerned and, most important, to clearly define areas of responsibility. The stakeholder approach used by the Authority for the Rouge Plan would be a good model.

To establish its position on a number of conflicting viewpoints, the Authority adopted an internal report entitled "A Crisis in Confidence?" early in the year. The Authority has since been guided by the recommendations in this report. It has also been involved in a public review of the recreational use of Authority lands, discussions pertaining to the Greater Toronto Area, cooperation with the Royal Commission on their review of lakefill policy and development of a greenspace acquisition policy.

Coinciding with this, the Authority acquired a major property in the Township of Uxbridge on the Oak Ridges Moraine from Mr. and Mrs. James W. Walker, Q.C. The property consists of more than 1,060 acres of managed woodland assembled over a period of almost 60 years. The nearby 150-acre Osler property was also obtained.

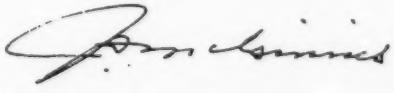
Both properties, coupled with the adjoining Glen Major Conservation Area, safeguard a large segment of the headwaters of our watershed and provide quiet opportunities to enjoy ski and hiking trails within a short distance of the most heavily populated area in Canada.

We hope opportunities to acquire land and encourage stewardship programs that protect our watershed on the Moraine and elsewhere will continue to be pursued and supported.

The Authority has taken the lead in working with municipalities, the Province and community groups in developing strategies for the Don and Humber River watersheds. These river valleys have played an important historic role in the life of our watershed and are no less vital now than they were 200 years ago.

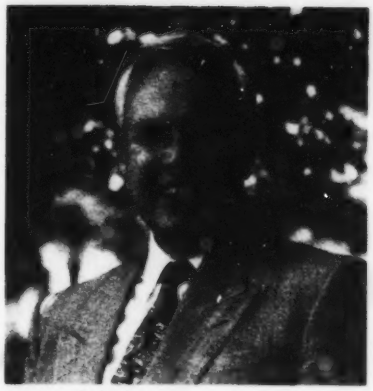
The Authority has been fortunate to have the support of The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto which has undertaken fundraising for the Charles Sauriol Conservation Reserve on the East Don River with notable success. The Authority thanks the Foundation and its donors for their generous support.

I would like to thank the Authority staff for the courtesies they have extended to me, personally, as Chairman during the past year and the enormous contribution to conservation they have made and continue to make. I am confident that the Authority will achieve its goals by adhering to its slogan "Working Together for Tomorrow's Greenspace."



John A. McGinnis

Chief Administrative Officer's Remarks



William A. McLean

THE Authority's 35th Annual Report, like those that preceded it, chronicles the achievements of an agency that has come to have a vital place in the communities it serves. However, there is a difference in the 1991 report that I hope will be apparent to our readers. This year the Authority took steps to renew itself and the way we understand our mandate. Our efforts coincided with the review of Conservation Authorities undertaken by the Government of Ontario and under which a mutual understanding of our core mandate was reached.

The Authority conducted its own study to assess public opinion on the appropriate use of conservation lands, a matter given to controversy. We intensified our efforts to come to grips with management strategies that would deal with the continuing deterioration of watershed resources, and we took the first steps towards creating effective partnerships on the Don and Humber watersheds. After many years of urging, the Government of Ontario recognized the importance of a healthy headwaters area and established a partnership of agencies and environmental groups to prepare a plan for the management of the Oak Ridges Moraine.

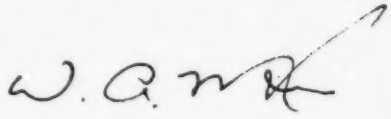
New multi-year projects were prepared for the regeneration of the Lake Ontario shoreline and valley corridors. Preparation also began on a valley corridor policy that will strengthen our ability to deal more effectively with the encroaching pressure of development.

Land acquisition, a cornerstone of resource conservation, made great strides in 1991, particularly in the headwaters area, with the acquisition of more than 500 hectares of sensitive lands. Without Authority ownership such lands could be subject to deforestation, regrading, gravel extraction and development.

The Authority looked closely at itself and its procedures in 1991. To improve its operating efficiency, it decided to continue with its present membership but have all advisory boards make recommendations directly to the Authority, thus avoiding duplication of review and freeing the Executive Committee to deal specifically with the matters delegated to it for decision.

New directions taken by the Authority will position it well to remain the leader in resource conservation at a time when change is the norm and other funding priorities are high on the list of member municipalities and the Province of Ontario.

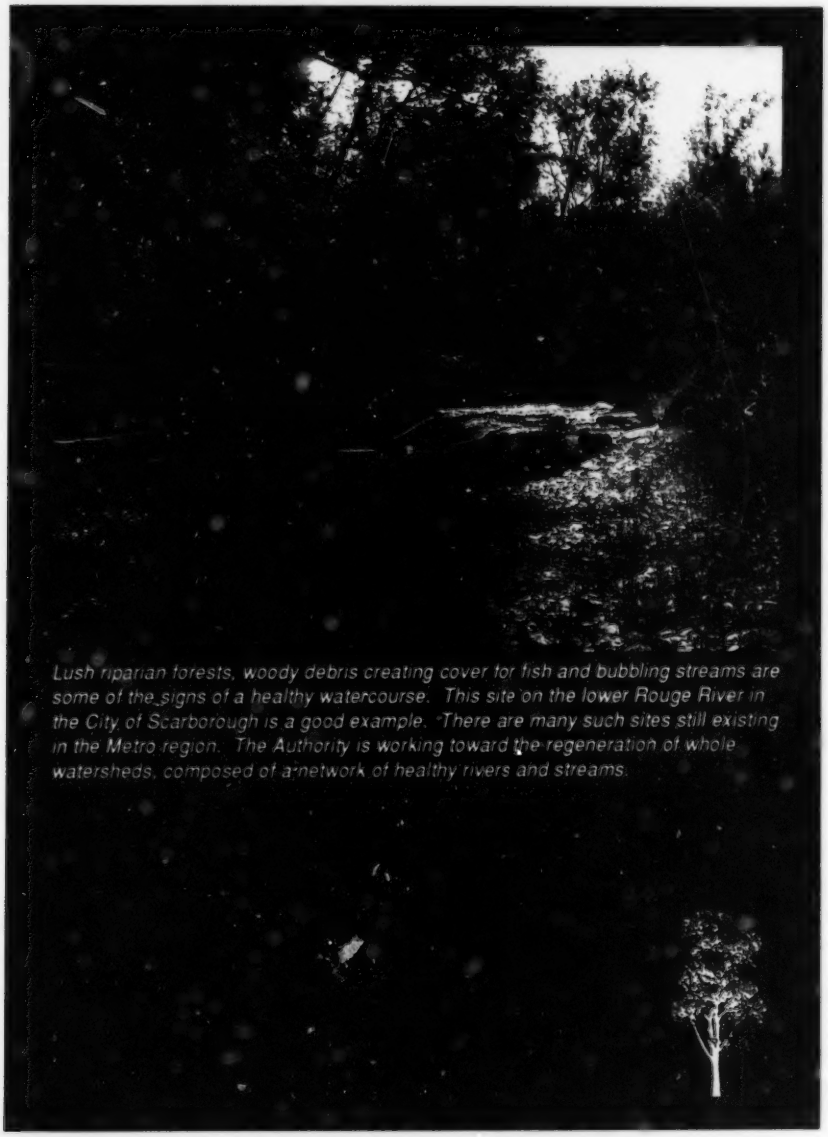
I hope the readers of this report share our enthusiasm as we look ahead to a promising future, based on our vision and our past experience.



William A. McLean

Management of Our Watershed Resources

METRO Region Conservation is responsible for the development of comprehensive programs of watershed management within Metropolitan Toronto, the Regions of Durham, Peel and York, and the Townships of Adjala and Mono.
In watershed management the Authority focuses on environmental quality management and enhancement, public safety, and municipal plan review and regulation administration.



Lush riparian forests, woody debris creating cover for fish and bubbling streams are some of the signs of a healthy watercourse. This site on the lower Rouge River in the City of Scarborough is a good example. There are many such sites still existing in the Metro region. The Authority is working toward the regeneration of whole watersheds, composed of a network of healthy rivers and streams.

Jennifer Vincent (right), supervisor of the Black Creek Project, demonstrates how to prune a tree in the Jane Street and Alliance Avenue area of the City of York.

The Authority develops policies and programs for land management, the restoration of degraded ecosystems and the protection of our headwaters and the Lake Ontario shoreline.

In 1980, the Colonel Samuel Smith Park Master Plan was approved. It addresses a critical shortage of public parkland in the south Etobicoke area. People can now walk, jog, cycle, birdwatch, fish and boat in this waterfront park.

Environmental Quality Management and Enhancement

The Authority develops policies and programs for land management, the restoration of degraded ecosystems and the protection of our headwaters and the Lake Ontario shoreline. Ultimately, by working toward the achievement of this goal, the Authority ensures that people can enjoy a better quality of life in the region for years to come.

Resource Management

Vegetation

The Authority nursery continues to provide plant material for many vegetation projects on Authority, private and public lands throughout the region. In 1991, 7,000 bare root trees, 32,000 bare root shrubs, 150 balled and burlapped trees and 930 caliper trees were supplied.

A vegetation management workshop held in June concentrated on "naturalization" and the use of native woody plant material for restoration works.

Other resource management projects included hydroseeding of eroding slopes, tree relocations, fencing and hazardous tree removals.

The first phase of a forest management plan for the newly acquired Walker property began with a forest inventory survey. Woodlot management and plantation thinning operations also took place at the Walker property and the Glen Haffy Forest and Wildlife Area. Results and recommendations of gypsy moth monitoring surveys in 15 locations were submitted to the Authority.

Waterfront Monitoring

The Lakefill Quality Environmental Monitoring Projects continued in 1991. Reports from 119 projects were reviewed, and a total of 36,929 bills of lading were issued for material for open water filling, while 5,985 loads of material were rejected. A total of 704 chemical tests were reviewed from the sites generating lakefill material. The program was at least 84 per cent effective in ensuring that lakefill guidelines were met.

A draft proposal for managing the disposal of fill at inland locations in the Metro region was completed. The purpose of the proposal is to encourage quality control management at inland sites, similar to that now available to waterfront sites.

Data collection continued at the Colonel Samuel Smith Waterfront Park in the City of Etobicoke to assess the effects of park construction on near-shore environment. It included water and sediment quality samples and surveys of the lake bottom. A survey of the lake bottom along the City of Scarborough shoreline was also completed.

Environmental monitoring of the Keating Channel dredging and disposal operation continued. Results show that the sediments disposed of in Tommy Thompson Park are well contained in their designated disposal area.

An environmental monitoring program was conducted to provide the basis for the preparation of the Environmental Management Plan for Frenchman's Bay.

Environmental investigations at the sites of proposed erosion control works continued. The program was expanded, and opportunities for habitat creation and enhancement were identified.

The Waterfront Fish Survey and Tagging Program revealed that waterfront parks created by the Authority have well-established, high quality and diverse fisheries, second in quality only to the Toronto Islands and the marshes at the mouth of the Humber and Rouge Rivers.

A census of bird communities along the Toronto waterfront was conducted to provide information on how migrating birds use waterfront parks.

A trap is used to collect sediments from the lake bottom at Tommy Thompson Park.

Special Projects

Clean Up Rural Beaches (CURB) Program

The Authority, in cooperation with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, began the implementation phase of the Rural Beaches Program to develop water improvement plans. A local steering committee was established to review applications for funding, and landowners were notified of the program.

Gravel Pit Rehabilitation

The Authority rehabilitated two gravel pits in 1991 -- one in the Township of Uxbridge, the other in the Boyd Conservation Area. A small wetland was created at the Boyd gravel pit, in conjunction with the Aggregate Producers Association of Ontario and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

The Boyd Gravel Pit Rehabilitation Project was launched on Earth Day 1991. Attending--(left to right) John A. McGinnis, Chairman of The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority; Phyllis Creighton, President of the Conservation Council of Ontario; Michael Di Biase, York Regional Councillor; Lorna Jackson, Mayor of the City of Vaughan; four-year-old Stephanie Le Tourneau; the Honourable Len Wood, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources Bud Wildman and MPP for Cochrane North; and Paul Franceschini, President of the Aggregate Producers' Association of Ontario.

Watershed Strategies

Through The Greenspace Strategy for the Greater Toronto Region, the Authority has assumed responsibility for comprehensive natural resource planning within the area. It has developed several watershed plans and is coordinating their implementation.

Rouge River Strategy

The Rouge River Management Strategy to improve valley and stream corridor protection, flood control, stormwater management, erosion control and aquatic and terrestrial habitat has reached the implementation stage. Metro Region Conservation, as the "lead" agency, has been assisted by the Strategy Implementation Committee and has collaborated with various working community groups to identify the timing and sequence of a number of the Strategy's recommendations. Riparian habitat plantings and stormwater quality control demonstration projects were completed this year.

The Fisheries Management Plan is approaching completion. Field activities during the summer focused on habitat assessment, flow measurements, mapping of riparian vegetation areas and public access points.

Duffins Creek Watershed Study

As part of the technical studies to support a watershed strategy for the Duffins Creek, a model for the assessment of fisheries habitat was developed, utilizing a graded approach to habitat assessment.

Don River Strategy

Metro Region Conservation began working on the development of a Comprehensive Basin Management Strategy for the Don River Watershed, initially focusing on the coordination of provincial, regional, municipal and local initiatives to protect and restore the ecological integrity of the Don.

This year the Authority began working on a "State of the Ecosystem" study that will provide geographical information on greenspace resources, as well as a study to update the hydrology and hydraulics of the watershed. A fish inventory was conducted, and a review of the criteria to designate areas as environmentally significant was begun. These data will form the basis of public consultation in the future.

Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program

The Authority initiated the development of a Valley and Stream Corridor policy document, for discussion in 1992, that will enable Rouge Comprehensive Basin Management Strategy recommendations to be applied to other watersheds. This document advocates the use of an ecosystem approach and defines land use planning policies. Plans call for this policy document to be released for public review and comment. Its purpose is to integrate the Authority's public safety responsibilities with a commitment to conserving all valley corridor natural amenities.

A prominent erosion scar on the West Duffins Creek in the Town of Pickering

Property

Land Acquisition

In July 1991, Metro Region Conservation completed the largest land purchase in its history, taking a major step toward the realization of its greenspace vision for the 21st century. Through land acquisition the Authority is able to conserve greenspace for the public's benefit. The beautifully forested Walker property, located in the Township of Uxbridge in the eastern reaches of the Oak Ridges Moraine Complex, acts as a wildlife habitat and water filtration system for Duffins Creek, one of the best streams in the Metro region. Under Authority ownership and management it will continue to perform these functions for many years to come.

The purchase of this 1,060-acre property has enabled the Authority to increase the size of the Glen Major Forest and Wildlife Area by almost 60 per cent. The purchase was made possible through funding by various levels of government and private donations, including those from the owners, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Walker, Q.C., Mrs. John B. Pangman and The R. Samuel McLaughlin Foundation.

General Floodplain, Valley and Waterfront Acquisition Project

The Authority acquired land at a number of locations in the region's watershed in 1991. These include the Osler property, an environmentally significant area in the Glen Major area of the Town of Pickering; the Mackie property located on the waterfront in the Chesterton Shores area of the City of Scarborough; the Ambas property located along the erosion-prone Scarborough Bluffs in the City of Scarborough; the Martin property in the Humber River watershed in the Town of Caledon; two parcels of land purchased from Ontario Hydro in the Duffins Creek watershed in the Town of Pickering; and the McVicar property, a flood-vulnerable site in the Rouge River watershed in the Town of Markham. As well, negotiations continued on a 39-acre parcel of land owned by Canada Post Corporation adjacent to Marie Curtis Park in the City of Mississauga. Arrangements were also made to demolish buildings and clear the land at the former Polyresins site in the Don River watershed in the Borough of East York.

Through land acquisition the Authority is able to conserve greenspace for the public's benefit.

Land Sales

Sales of surplus land in 1991 included a 15-acre parcel of land in the Humber River watershed in the City of Vaughan and a small parcel of land in the Don River watershed in the City of North York.

The Authority's land disposal policy was revised this year to include public comment. The new public review process was initiated for disposal of the property at the Jane Street and Steeles Avenue location and seven residential lots in the Frenchman's Bay area of the Town of Pickering.

Rentals

Property management activities, involving approximately 150 rentals of residences, farmlands, apiary sites and other uses compatible with the mandate of the Authority, continued.

To commemorate the largest land purchase in Authority history, a ceremonial tree planting was held on the beautifully forested Walker property on July 11, 1991. Attending the ceremony--(left to right) Olwen Walker; John A. McGinnis, Chairman of The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority; Larry O'Connor (MPP for Durham-York), representing the Minister of Natural Resources Bud Wildman; James Walker, Q.C., owner of the property; and Gary Herrema, Chairman of the Region of Durham.

Public Safety

The Authority has been very successful in the area of public safety over the years. Lives and properties along the river valleys and the Lake Ontario shoreline have been protected through remedial works, development control, land acquisition, municipal plan review and the development of a flood warning system.

Flood and Erosion Control

Flood damage prevention continues to be a key responsibility of the Authority. Although no serious flooding occurred in 1991, there were a number of flood advisories issued.

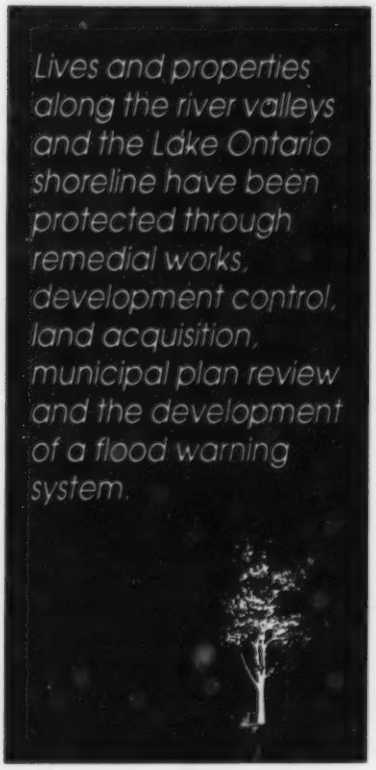
A study for estimating flow data on small watercourses was completed, which will be especially useful for flood studies in areas proposed for development. One study was carried out along a tributary of the Rouge River in Unionville.

Dredging of the Keating Channel provides some flood protection to the lower Don area and is an important part of the Authority's contribution to the Don Watershed Strategy. In 1991, dredging at the mouth of the Don was completed to recommended design depths. Draft design and cost estimates for the final cover for the dredged material disposal facility at Tommy Thompson Park continued, and negotiations toward a new agreement for maintenance dredging began.

Flood protection works were constructed at the Tyndall Nursing Home on the Little Etobicoke Creek in the City of Mississauga. Erosion control works were undertaken on the German Mills Creek in the City of North York, and work was completed on the East Don River in the Town of Richmond Hill. Two privately funded erosion control works were undertaken on the East Don River south of Eglinton Avenue and south of York Mills Avenue. Shoreline protection continued along the Scarborough Bluffs at Guildwood Parkway and Kingsbury Crescent.

An evaluation of existing erosion control structures was conducted at 14 sites (see appendix). During the course of the work, a new process for environmental evaluations was developed and applied. A major rehabilitation program for the Claireville Dam, including replacement of the key mechanical and electrical components, was also undertaken.

Recently constructed shoreline protection along Kingsbury Crescent in the City of Scarborough (left-hand side).


Lives and properties along the river valleys and the Lake Ontario shoreline have been protected through remedial works, development control, land acquisition, municipal plan review and the development of a flood warning system.

Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects

The Authority coordinated the preparation of a new environmental assessment procedure for the Association of Conservation Authorities of Ontario (ACAO). The new process advocates an ecosystem approach to project design and provides for increased opportunities for public consultation.

Stormwater Management

Together with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, the Authority began a study of water quality in stormwater ponds to determine the benefits achieved by traditional wet retention ponds. A draft report and bibliography on constructed wetlands for the treatment of stormwater was prepared.

Municipal Plan Review and Regulation Administration

Metro Region Conservation implements its program goals through the municipal land use planning process and administration of the Authority's Fill, Construction and Alteration of Waterways Regulation.

It provides information and recommendations to Authority member municipalities on development applications and planning documents. In 1991, land division applications rose 34 per cent while subdivision applications fell 43 per cent, illustrating a shift toward smaller scale development proposals. This shift impacts the Authority's program. In 1991, five of six referrals to the Ontario Municipal Board involved land division applications. The Authority has had to alter its focus to ensure that its watershed management policies and programs are effectively maintained.

Metro Region Conservation continues to implement the recommendations of the Rouge River Strategy and provincial interests for the Oak Ridges Moraine, using new land use planning guidelines. It also worked with the Cities of Toronto, Etobicoke, Brampton and Vaughan; the Towns of Aurora and Caledon; The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto; and The Regional Municipality of Durham to review and update their Official Plans.

The Authority acts as a commenting agency under the Environmental Assessment Act and was involved in the assessment of such projects as the Leslie Street Extension and the Humber River Bridge Reconstruction.

It also has jurisdiction over valley and stream corridors and the Lake Ontario waterfront. In 1991, 213 permits were issued and one hearing was held. As well, the Authority responded to over 3,200 solicitor/realtor inquiries.

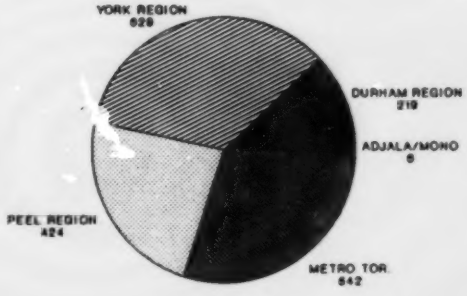
Work continues with the City of Toronto and provincial agencies in the development of a Special Policy Area (SPA) designation for the lower Don River floodplain. A residential community in the City of York received final approvals for SPA status, and work continues on developing and implementing a zoning by-law for the Hoggs Hollow SPA in the City of North York. Phase II of the Authority's Fill Regulation Extension Project, which focuses on the region's headwaters, was initiated.

This year the Authority continued to increase its efforts in providing environmental review and comments on various planning documents and reports. Over 125 requests were responded to.

To improve customer service and program delivery, the Authority has begun integrating regulation information with the City of Toronto's database and is developing a Geographic Database Management System.

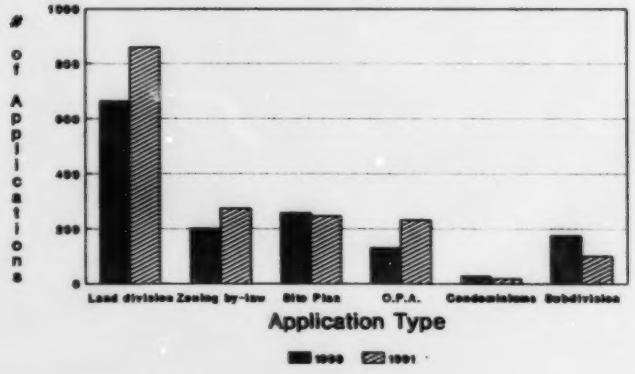
MUNICIPAL PLAN REVIEW

Applications by Region



REGIONAL TOTALS

Total Applications by Type and Year



Partnerships

Sediment Control Program

In 1991, the Authority continued to work cooperatively with the municipalities on sediment control. In the City of Vaughan, six sediment generating sites were stabilized, totalling 105 metres on-stream and 60 metres of eroding ditchline. In the Town of Markham, four streambank stabilization projects were completed for a total of 110 metres along the Rouge River. The stabilization work included measures to improve fish habitat.

As well, two sediment control projects were completed on Authority lands covering more than 110 metres along the East Humber and Humber Rivers.

Riparian Habitat Program

Riparian corridor planting projects were initiated and/or completed on Authority lands and with the Town of Markham, the Town of Richmond Hill, the City of Vaughan, the City of Brampton and the City of Mississauga. For example, the Authority supplied the Town of Markham with trees and shrubs for local school children and youth volunteers to plant along the John Button Waterway. It also planted trees and shrubs in the first phase of a revegetation project for a newly constructed stormwater facility in the City of Vaughan.

In total, the Authority planted 10,235 shrubs, 439 bare root trees and 105 caliper trees for the Riparian Habitat Program.

Humber River Project

Metro Region Conservation worked with Trees for Today and Tomorrow and Environment Canada on two bank stabilization projects in Albion Hills Conservation Area. It also assisted on tree and shrub plantings in the Palgrave Forest and Wildlife Area and on seedling plantings on both the Bolton Resource Management Tract and on a private property.

The Environmental Rehabilitation of the East Don River

The Conservation Foundation of Greater [illegible] Environment Canada and the Authority worked together on tree and shrub plantings and the stabilization of an eroding bank in the Charles Sauriol Conservation Reserve. A total of 844 trees and 520 shrubs were planted at five different sites within the Reserve. In addition, an eroding bank was stabilized and planted with native grasses, shrubs and trees.

Environmental Youth Corps (EYC)

EYC staff and 900 volunteers planted more than 2,500 trees and shrubs along the Black Creek, worked on a slope bioengineering project and stabilized 45 small erosion sites . At some sites, fish habitat was improved. Plans for construction of a wetland at Trethewey Park continued. Altogether, 15,000 kilograms of man-made debris was removed from 37 kilometres of Tororto area watercourses.

Trout Unlimited Canada (TUC)

Trout Unlimited Canada, the Environmental Youth Corps and the Shell Environmental Fund worked together on the rehabilitation of several sites on the upper Humber River, including the stabilization of five streambank erosion and sedimentation sites.

The Black Creek Project was launched by a group of citizens determined to halt the deterioration of Black Creek through tree plantings such as this.

Construction Practices Study

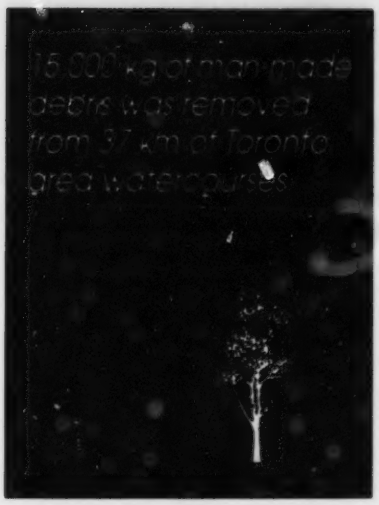
Metro Region Conservation and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment began a study of construction practices in selected Toronto watersheds. This study evaluates the effectiveness of erosion and sediment controls used in urban development.

Milne Park Fishing Pier

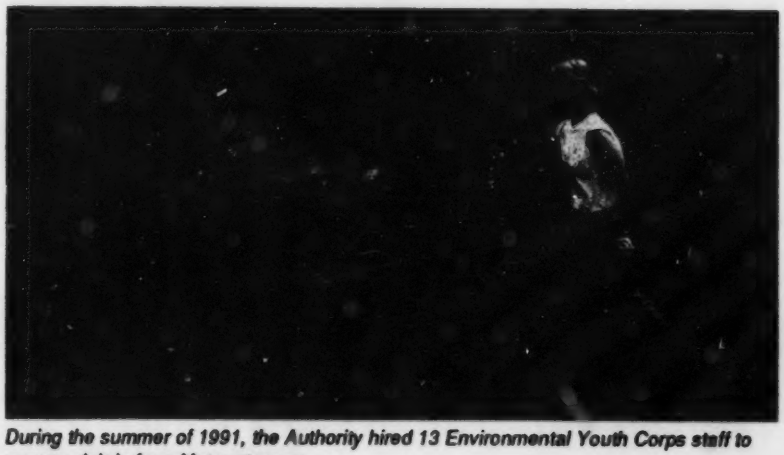
The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the Town of Markham and the Markham Conservation Committee worked with the Authority on the construction of an access trail and the design of a fishing pier at Milne Park.

Metro Toronto Remedial Action Plan (RAP)

The International Joint Commission has been concerned about the water quality problems in the Great Lakes and has identified 17 areas of concern in Ontario. "Metro Toronto Region" is one area of concern. Remedial Action Plans (RAPs) can be described as comprehensive blueprints for restoring beneficial uses by cleaning up polluted areas. The Authority continued to participate in various RAP committees for Metro Toronto and region in 1991.



The public, including many local students, and Authority staff planted tree to rehabilitate the watershed of the Black Creek at the Edgeley woodlot in the City of Vaughan.

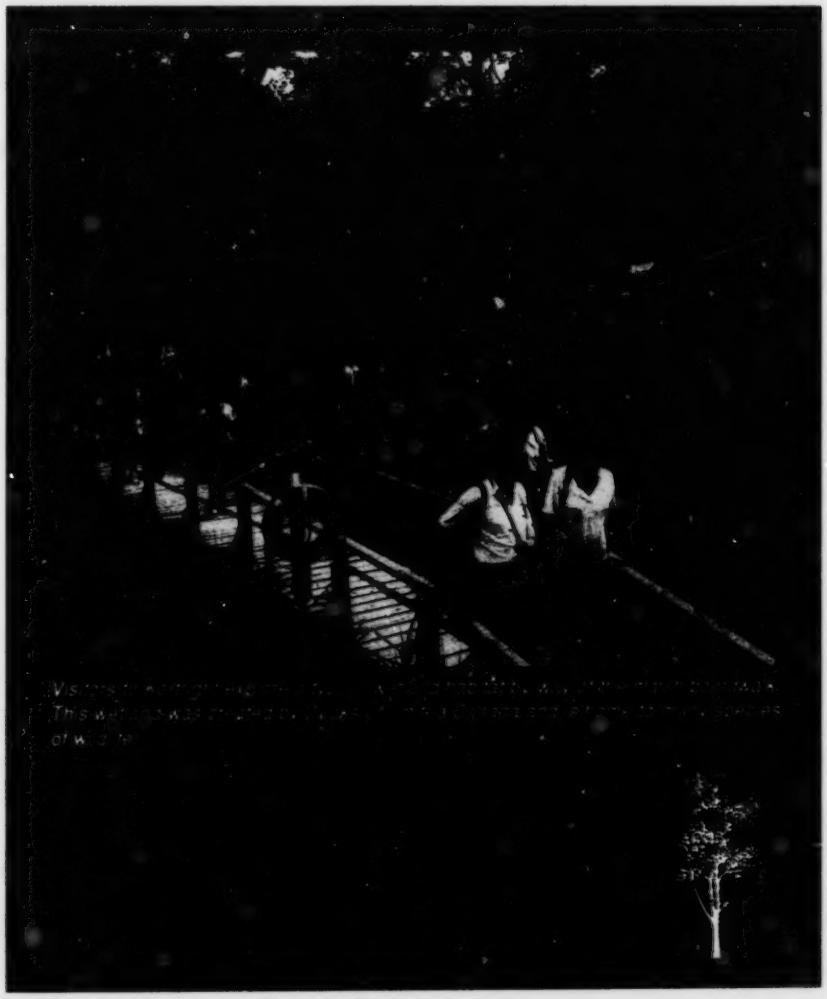


During the summer of 1991, the Authority hired 13 Environmental Youth Corps staff to remove debris from Metro streams.

Public Use of Conservation Lands

IN 1991, Metro Region Conservation conducted a comprehensive review to assess the merits of its **"Strategy for the Public Use of Conservation Authority Lands."** This review was also used as a focus to examine broader open space management issues which would ultimately impact on the Authority's management of greenspace resources within the Greater Toronto Area.

The review was designed as a consultation process, with input from the Authority's funding partners, user and interest groups, agencies, staff and the general public, leading to a vision and recommendation to update the Strategy.



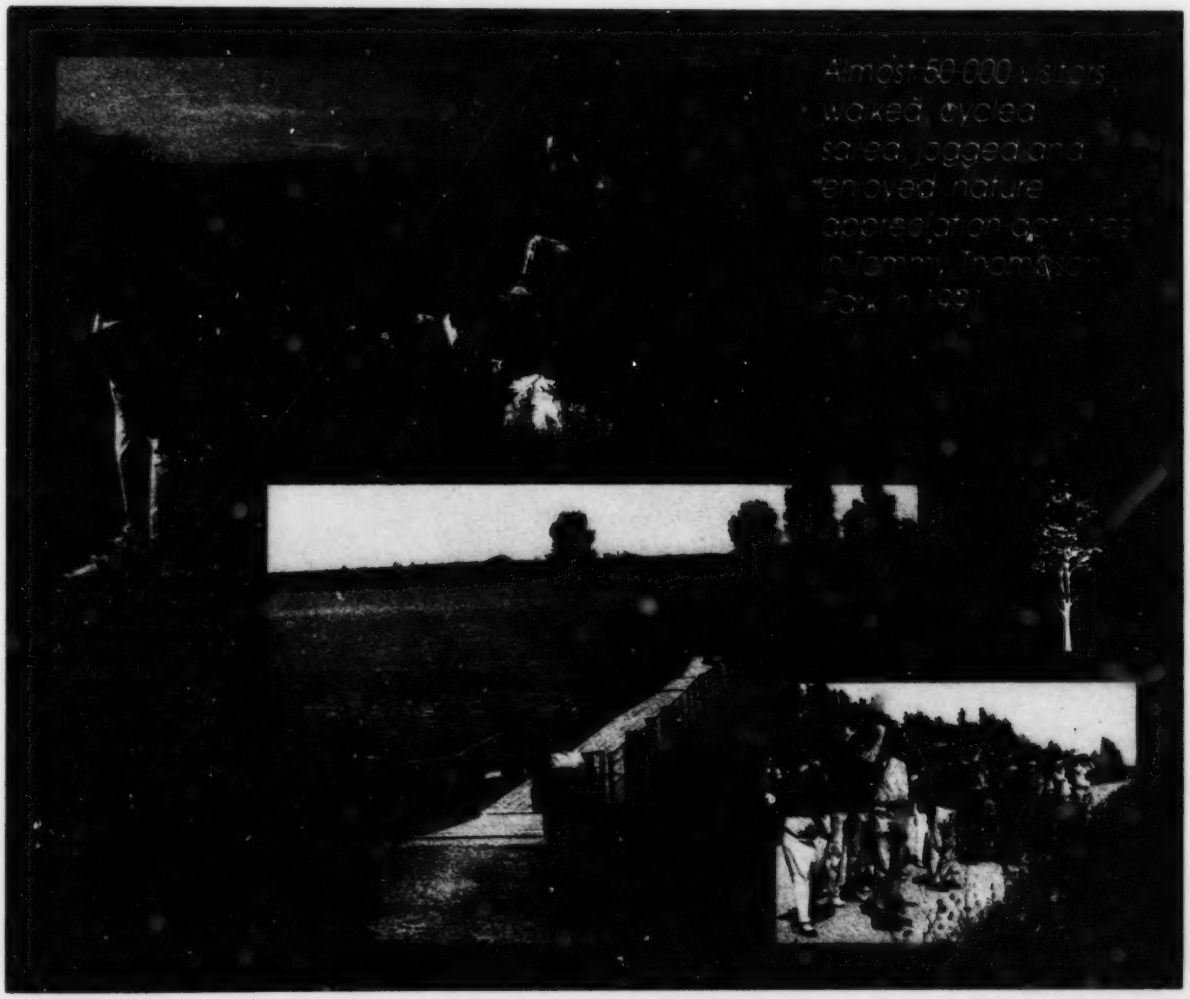
Development

Facility improvements were made to a number of Conservation Areas, including the construction of a workshop at Black Creek Pioneer Village and a new conservation field centre at the Claireville Conservation Area. In keeping with the growing concern over pollution caused by traditional sewage treatment systems, composting toilets were purchased for installation at Boyd and Bruce's Mill Conservation Areas.

Trails

New trail-potential maps were prepared using a computer based Geographic Information System (G.I.S.). These maps were used to analyse resources along the Oak Ridges Moraine, the major river valleys and the Lake Ontario waterfront. The results will be used to select environmentally safe routes for inter-regional trails.

The **"Trail Planning and Design Guidelines"** manual was circulated to watershed municipalities, government agencies and local trail groups. In addition, there has been continued interest and orders for the manual from right across the Province. The Authority continues to provide technical and organizational information to trail related groups with emphasis on waterfront and Oak Ridges Moraine trails.



Waterfront

Tommy Thompson Park

Almost 50,000 visitors walked, cycled, sailed, jogged and enjoyed nature appreciation activities in Tommy Thompson Park in 1991. Attendance figures rose substantially from the previous year because many cyclists entered the park during the Manulife Ride For Heart. There was free public transportation in the park again this year, and the summer interpretive program attracted 850 visitors.

Work in Tommy Thompson Park included the Gull Control Program which reduced substantially the number of breeding gulls on site. The joint Authority/ Canadian Wildlife Service program continued to provide artificial tern nesting habitat. The Aquatic Park Sailing Club licence agreement was renewed.

Waterfront Regeneration

The Authority was involved in waterfront activity with all the municipalities from the City of Etobicoke to the Town of Ajax.

This year the final design of the public boardwalk at Colonel Samuel Smith Park in the City of Etobicoke began. The land was prepared for landscaping and pathway installation, and shoreline treatment along the boardwalk strip was completed. A rezoning application was submitted to the City of Etobicoke to permit boating facilities for 1992, and draft lease documents for the Samuel Smith Boaters Federation were submitted for approval.

The Authority continued to support the redevelopment proposal for the Motel Strip.

It also participated in the Metropolitan Toronto Technical Waterfront Committee and in a special committee setting directions on the regional lakeside trail. The Authority's Geographic Information System (GIS) assisted Metro in planning and route selection for the trail.

Another wetland/habitat creation project was initiated at South Marine Drive in the City of Scarborough, which includes two "wet" areas, a number of rolling hills and protective berms and a strategy for natural landscaping.

A study assessing the potential impact of lakefill on the proposed East Point Park was completed and will be used to evaluate different shoreline regeneration options and to prepare a final environmental assessment.

The Frenchman's Bay West Master Plan was approved and directed for further environmental assessment approval. An amendment to the project boundary was approved and acquisition of new waterfront lands discussed. A new process involving open houses for the public began this year.

To support the provincial study "Frenchman's Bay, Ontario: Conservation and Sustainable Development," the Authority prepared an environmental inventory of Frenchman's Bay. A comprehensive remediation plan involving the participation of many of our partners is under way.

The Authority began the first stage of planting just east of Rotary Park along the lower reaches of Duffins Creek and assisted the Town of Ajax in extending the waterfront pathway.

Stouffville Reservoir

Metro Region Conservation continued to develop and enhance the trail system encircling the Stouffville Reservoir Forest and Wildlife Area. Boardwalks and footbridges were constructed, fences were installed, hazard trees were removed, trail base conditions and wildlife habitat were improved and signs and trail markers were provided. The trails will wind through natural areas, including cedar, hemlock, maple and beech forests and open meadow. The site was also assessed for its fishing potential.

"Wet" areas were constructed to catch groundwater and create a marsh-like habitat for fish, birds and wildlife on South Marine Drive in the City of Scarborough.

Outdoor Recreation

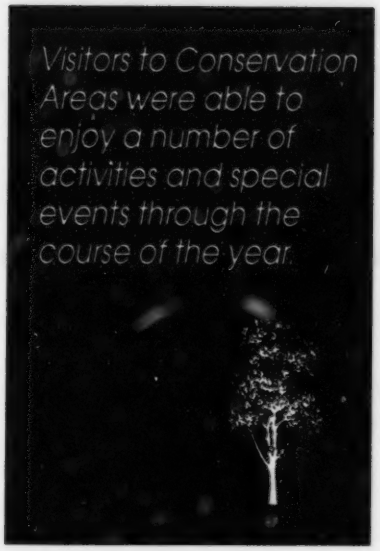
Conservation Areas

The Authority's Conservation Areas act as natural oases in Ontario's largest urban region. They provide opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreational activities such as picnicking, swimming, camping, fishing, cross-country skiing, hiking or just taking in the fresh air.

This year Conservation Areas were faced with the challenge of being able to continue to offer a variety of recreational services within an increasingly difficult economic climate. In response, a new operating schedule was put in place and several other operating efficiencies were introduced.

Visitors to Conservation Areas were able to enjoy a number of activities and special events through the course of the year. Winter snows helped to increase attendance by 3,600 visitors for the season. Maple syrup time at Bruce's Mill continued to be a popular draw. Exceptionally pleasant spring weather and our second annual Maple Festival weekend helped attract an additional 2,700 visitors to take part in the program.

Picnicking, swimming, camping and other traditional summertime activities were enhanced by excellent weather on weekends throughout the season. However, like most other recreational or tourist attractions, Conservation Areas suffered from some decline in attendance over this period due primarily to economic pressures.


Visitors to Conservation Areas were able to enjoy a number of activities and special events through the course of the year.

Glen Haffy's Fish Fun Day attracted more than 500 anglers to try their luck at the trout ponds. Heart Lake hosted its fourth annual Fall Arts and Crafts Festival, while a similar event was introduced at Greenwood.

Enforcement and Safety

Enforcement

Metro Region Conservation enforcement officers continued to enforce Authority regulations made under provincial legislation governing the placement of fill in river valleys and on the waterfront.

In 1991, 216 violations were issued on 131 different sites. Of these, 117 were issued to private landowners and 99 to corporations, including construction companies. Officers were also responsible for the inspection and approval of 254 property clearances and 214 new permits for fill and construction activities.

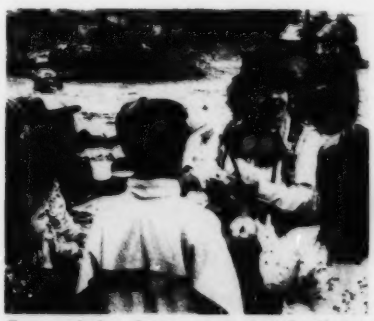
Metro Region Conservation enforces regulations for public use of its lands. The majority of people cooperate but, in some cases, the Authority must deal with vandalism, trespassing, etc.

Safety

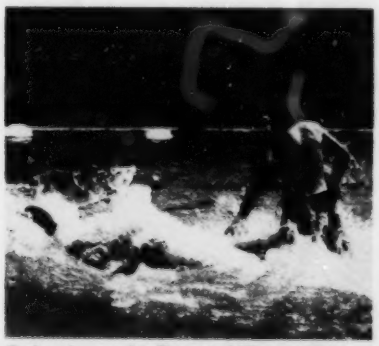
In 1991, considerable activity was initiated to improve the Authority's overall awareness of the value of safety. Increased control procedures and audits were conducted to measure specific results.

These increased efforts in the "management" of safety have resulted in a lower injury record and, overall, lower costs.

Bruce's Mill Conservation Area in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1991, with a special Maple Festival Weekend.



Face-painting draws a crowd at the Heart Lake Fall Arts and Crafts Festival in the City of Brampton.



Swimming at the Bruce's Mill pond continues to be a popular summer pastime.

Conservation and Heritage Education

For almost four decades the Authority has provided education programs for both the public and students, involving almost three million people or the equivalent of the population of the Metro Toronto region. The Authority works together with the boards of education and the Ministry of Education to offer a variety of programs at four residential field centres.

A new recreational camping program was introduced at the Albion Hills Field Centre this spring, in which students and teachers learned about the environmental and safety aspects of camping by pitching tents and experiencing the great outdoors. In another situation, a group of seniors participated in the Elderhostel Program at the Albion Hills Field Centre where they learned about Ontario agriculture and heritage conservation.

Every summer for the past 20 years, second year environmental geography students from York University have gathered at the field centre for three weeks of on-site education. This summer, the students learned about development pressures on the Oak Ridges Moraine and the headwaters of Metro's nine river systems.

The great increase in secondary student visits to Albion Hills this fall has encouraged us to increase programming in the areas of resource management, wildlife and stream management.

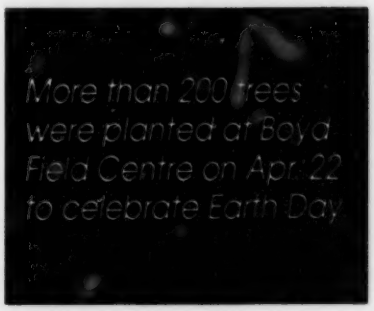
More than 200 trees were planted at Boyd Field Centre on Apr. 22 to celebrate Earth Day. Students from the Ellesmere/ Stratton School in Scarborough planted white ash, white pine and red pine. Many are determined to come back in 25 or 30 years to see the progress the trees have made.

Work began on the interior of the Claremont Field Centre to increase the residential capacity to 60 students per visit. The Cold Creek Field Centre day program was transferred here, resulting in the revision of one program and the addition of three new orienteering courses.

Nature provides many new learning opportunities, and at the Lake St. George Field Centre one such opportunity provided an exceptional program opportunity. The newest evening program is the study of a brown bat colony that just happens to reside in the barn. The study which is designed to develop a better understanding and appreciation for bats includes listening to their "radar" system with a special electronic bat detector.

The centre has developed new programs which emphasize the value and delicate nature of the Oak Ridges Moraine. These programs are of various lengths and feature speakers from such special interest groups as Save The Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM). In June, Ontario Minister of Natural Resources Bud Wildman announced new provincial guidelines to protect the Moraine in a press conference at the field centre.

This year Lake St. George's Environmental Impact Studies examined three major issues: the impact of the Bayview Extension, newly constructed golf courses and the proposed Lake Wilcox Development Plan.

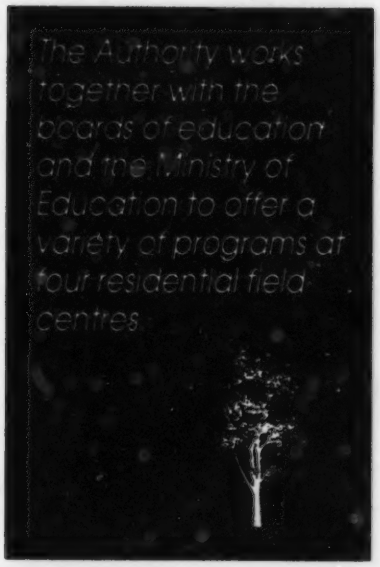


In September, a computerized reservation system to improve customer service was implemented for educational programs at Black Creek Pioneer Village.

Overall attendance for heritage education at the Village decreased 15 per cent this year due to both continuing economic pressure and shift in curriculum emphasis. Participation in the Christmas program and the special primary program, Charlie Needs A New Cloak, increased from previous years. Primary and junior students were particularly interested in the interactive toy program.

There are beautiful forests and fields, healthy streams, lakes and rivers, and abundant wildlife only minutes from Metro Toronto.

A student makes friends at the Albion Hills dairy farm.

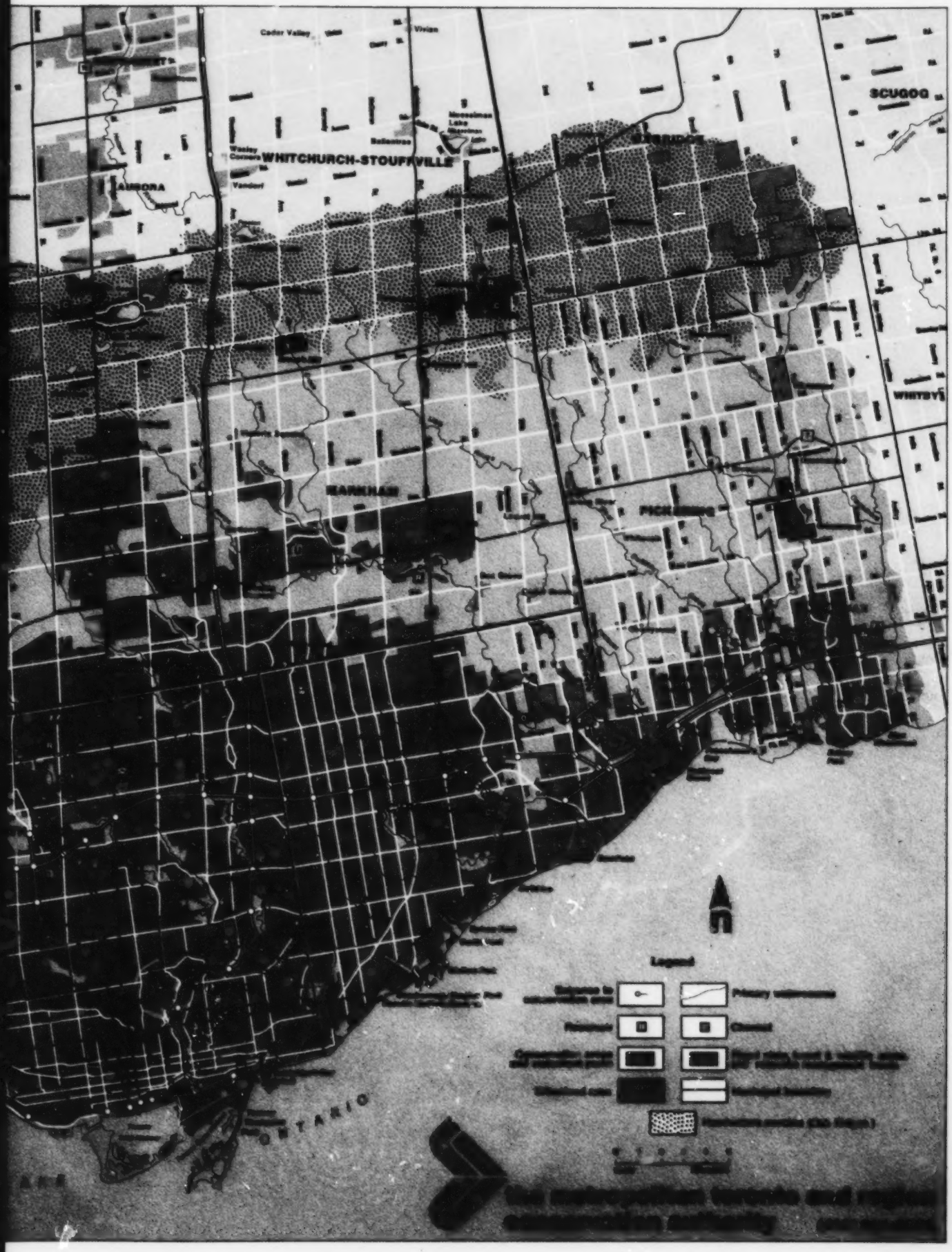

The Authority works together with the boards of education and the Ministry of Education to offer a variety of programs at four residential field centres.

Students at Claremont Field Centre learn about development pressures on the Oak Ridges Moraine and headwater streams such as this.

Students and an instructor (centre) examine a screen for artifacts from a 450-year-old late Iroquoian village located in the Boyd Conservation Area in the City of Vaughan.

The classroom "barge" at the Lake St. George Field Centre in Oak Ridges lets students focus on lake ecology.

MONO
ADJALA
Tottenham
TECUMSETH
KING
CALEDON
VAUGHAN
HALTON HILLS


SCUGOG
WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE
AURORA
MARKHAM
PICKERING
WHITBY
ONTARIO
Legend

Kortright Centre for Conservation

Kortright offers a wide variety of programs in a beautiful greenspace area. Located on the fringe of Canada's largest urban area, Kortright boasts 162 hectares of forested tablelands, picturesque valleylands, bountiful wetlands and nature trails to help visitors truly experience this special spot of nature.

This spring was excellent for maple syrup. Approximately 32,000 visitors watched modern and old-fashioned maple syrup demonstrations. Kortright had its biggest weekend attendance ever during the annual Four Winds Kite Festival in May, with more than 4,100 visitors on the weekend. As always, a large draw was the Canadian National Stunt Kite Championships. In all, more than 40 participants from all over North America demonstrated their kite-flying prowess. This year also marked the first annual Honey Festival at Kortright, drawing more than 1,400 visitors on a September weekend.

New energy-efficient lighting was installed in the Visitors Centre, courtesy of Ontario Hydro. Ontario Hydro also funded a new 10-kilowatt wind turbine that was installed in July.

The Ontario Minister of Energy visited Kortright for the Great Canadian Solar Race in June and again for the opening of the new Renewable Energy Demonstration Cottage in October.

Kortright is becoming more accessible to all of its visitors. The energy trail was rerouted for the disabled and for all-weather accessibility, while the marsh viewing tower was relocated to provide a more spectacular view of wildlife.

Kortright was of interest to many public media over the year. Staff appeared or spoke on more than 200 occasions, including the Winter Walk episode of David Suzuki's new children's series, The Nature Connection.

In 1991, attendance grew seven per cent.

Kortright had its biggest weekend attendance ever during the annual Four Winds Kite Festival in May, with more than 4,100 visitors on the weekend.

A child checks for sap. Visitors to Kortright tasted 27,000 samples of fresh maple syrup, all produced on site, this year.

Peter Attfield leads an international convention of foresters along the Humber River at Kortright and explains how our valleys protect vital remnants of the vast forests that once blanketed southern Ontario.

The Renewable Energy Demonstration Cottage opened its doors to the public on October 24, 1991.

Kortright is the natural place for students to go for environmental games and studies.

Black Creek Pioneer Village

Over the past three decades Black Creek Pioneer Village has grown from seven to more than 40 authentically restored buildings that re-create life in pre-Confederation southern Ontario.

This year an interesting exhibit, To Keep And To Carry, was installed in the McNair Gallery. The exhibit which highlights the history and evolution of packaging from 1850 to 1925 was completed in May and has been on display throughout the year. Focusing on four commodities: sugar, cheese, butter and tea, this exhibit was the topic of a two-page photo essay in Canada's Marketing Magazine in September. Community ethno-racial groups continued to participate in the Christmas tree exhibit on display in the Visitors Centre during the Christmas program. Also, the private collection, Creches of the World, was featured for the second time, courtesy of the YWCA International Boutique.

Theatre on the Move, Black Creek's resident theatre company, brought history to the streets of the Village six days a week during July and August. It is Canada's only theatre company with a mandate to perform plays about Canadian history.

Other highlights were a four-day summer program, With My Own Hands: Everyday Life in Ontario, co-hosted by the Village and The Ontario Historical Society, which drew more than 70 registrants per day; and the 35th Annual Pioneer Festival which reached its highest attendance since 1985, almost 6,000 visitors.

Black Creek also worked with the school boards in York and Peel Regions to establish a student co-op program.

Students did some interesting work at the Village this year. A new Canadian student participated for eight weeks in the historical gardening program. The gardens of Black Creek are just as much a part of history as the buildings. Another student undertook a 12-week internship revamping the toy exhibit as part of a master of museum studies degree program. Black Creek also worked with the school boards in York and Peel Regions to establish a student co-op program. Six students worked four or five days a week at the Village during the fall.

Through grants from the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications, two special projects were undertaken. The Village acquired computer hardware and software, adding exhibition graphics and collections records management to its growing computerization capabilities. With the generous assistance of the Province and many donors, Black Creek acquired an outstanding collection of 19th-century kerosene lamps.

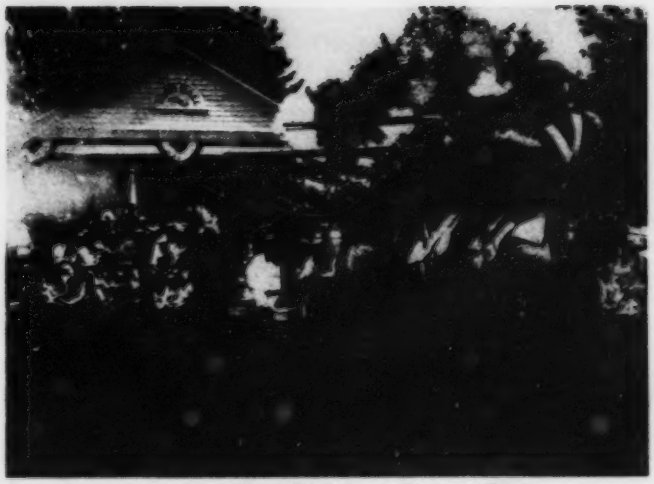
The Village benefited from corporate support for several annual events, including the Easter Egg Hunt, Bake It With Apples Contest and the Pumpkin Party for Kids. Volunteer support was enthusiastically provided by the Boy Scouts of Canada, church choirs, military re-enactors and interested individuals.

An expanded winter weekend program was tested during January and February with the Half Way House restaurant open to visitors, in addition to the usual sleigh rides and Visitors Centre exhibits. Despite this and other initiatives, overall attendance was down seven per cent from 1990 largely due to a decline in school tours and tourism.

Considerable work was done in building maintenance, including the establishment of a building assessment program, repairs to various structures and ground-breaking for the new maintenance building.

The Bake It With Apples Contest, Toronto's biggest and most popular pie contest, awards prizes to people of all ages and draws entries from as far away as Sudbury.

Visitors to Black Creek meet interpreters with many special skills. Bob Allan, a musical instrument maker by trade, works in the Broom Maker's Shop.



A re-enactment of military life at Black Creek Pioneer Village.

Honour Roll Awards

METRO Region Conservation grants Honour Roll Awards to persons and/or corporate bodies who have made a significant contribution to the overall aims and objectives of the Authority. Each award consists of a framed citation and is marked by a tree planted and identified with the recipient's name in designated areas around the Authority's Head Office and at Black Creek Pioneer Village.

The 1991 Honour Roll Award recipients were: **Charles G. Brown**, a well-known educator and longtime supporter of outdoor and conservation education, and a member of both the Authority's Information and Education Advisory Board and the Joint Planning Committee for ten years each; **Dr. John W. Scott**, a member of the Authority's Historical Sites Advisory Board for almost three decades and a dedicated supporter of the development of Black Creek Pioneer Village; **Canada Packers Inc.** for generously supporting the Bake It With Apples Contest at Black Creek Pioneer Village since 1983 and for helping to develop this event into one of the biggest and best baking contests in the Metro region; **Royal Bank of Canada** for generously supporting a wide variety of conservation and heritage projects of The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto; and **Save the Rouge Valley System Incorporated** for closely involving itself with the Authority in an effort to protect and preserve the Rouge River watershed and for helping to develop a Comprehensive Basin Management Strategy that can also be applied to other watersheds.

Metro Region Conservation deeply regrets that a number of people who made a significant contribution to the Authority passed away in 1991.

John Bradshaw was an avid gardener, radio commentator and writer. He was supportive of a variety of Authority programs and served for many years on the Historical Sites Advisory Board. Mr. Bradshaw was elected Reeve of Black Creek Pioneer Village from 1976 to 1978.

Howard Chandler was a member of the Authority and active on the Don Valley Advisory Board from 1970 to 1978.

Edna Gardner was a charter member of Metro Region Conservation and a member of its Executive Committee for 22 years. A well-respected researcher and fundraiser, she promoted Black Creek Pioneer Village and Kortright. Mrs. Gardner was also a member of The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto and became Director Emeritus.

Walter James was a member of the Authority and active on its Conservation Areas Advisory Board from 1969 to 1977. He was also a member of the Executive Committee and Personnel Sub-Committee in the mid-seventies.

Art Latornell, a prominent Ontario conservationist, was a Field Officer for Metro Region Conservation and later became Director of the Conservation Authorities Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. He was also a Director of The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto.

Ivor McMullin a former Reeve of Albion Township and first Mayor of the Town of Caledon was a member of the Authority and on its Conservation Areas Advisory Board from 1968 to 1972.

Alan Millar, a well-known radio host, was Deputy Reeve of Black Creek Pioneer Village from January to June 1987 and Reeve of the Village from 1988 to 1990.

Beverly Morgan of Pickering was a member of the Authority and on its Water and Related Land Management Advisory Board in 1988.

Elsa Neil was noted for her passion for early Canadian history and for being the driving force behind the establishment of Black Creek Pioneer Village. She was the first curator of the Dalziel Museum that later became part of Black Creek Pioneer Village.

The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto

THE Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto is a registered charity whose volunteer directors are dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of greenspace and heritage resources in the Metro Toronto region. As a full-fledged partner of the Authority, the Foundation contributes to its projects and the general greening of the community.

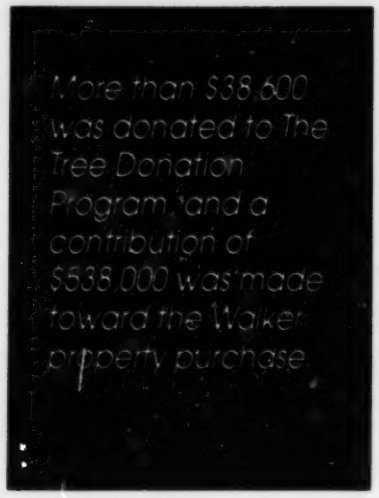
In 1991, on its 30th anniversary, The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto raised more than $1 million, bringing its fundraising total to nearly $7 million. Fundraising for 1991 focused on The Environmental Rehabilitation of the East Don River Valley. The campaign objective was $540,000. Donations and grants to the project totalled $205,400 this year. Both Environment Canada's Environmental Partners Fund and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' Anti-Recession Grant provided $100,000 in matching grants.

As a result of the Foundation's fundraising efforts in 1991, Black Creek Pioneer Village received $42,000 in support of the Hazel Beckett Memorial Lighting Fund, the Doctor's Garden and the Nesbitt Sawmill. Donations to Kortright totalled $26,800. More than $38,600 was donated to The Tree Donation Program, and a contribution of $538,000 was made toward the Walker property purchase.

For many years the Foundation has offered conservation scholarships to students under The B. Harper Bull Conservation Fellowship Awards Fund. In 1991, four scholarships of $1,000 were awarded. The William T. Foster Woods received $13,400 in donations.

At its annual meeting in May at the Royal Bank of Canada, the Foundation elected the following officers: Kenneth A. Smee, Chairman; Gordon W. Patterson, President; James W. Keenan, Vice President; William A. McLean, Secretary-Treasurer; and Waneeta A. Robertson, Executive Coordinator. Authority Chairman John A. McGinnis and Authority member Kip Van Kempen were appointed as new members.

Thomas R. Webb and Arthur D. Latornell resigned early this year, and Mr. Webb was elected Director Emeritus. As well, the Foundation suffered the loss of Mrs. Edna Gardner, one of its founding directors and former Director Emeritus, and Arthur D. Latornell, a member since 1988, who both passed away.



A cheque presentation toward the Environmental Rehabilitation of the East Don River took place at the Charles Sauriol Conservation Reserve located in the heart of Metro Toronto in November 1991. Attending--(left to right) Gordon Patterson, President of The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto; conservationist Charles Sauriol; Jim Coats, Executive Vice President of the Ontario Forestry Association; the Honourable Alan Redway, Minister of State, Housing, and MP for Don Valley East; Paul Bubelis, Officer of the Environmental Partners Fund; and Gary Wilkins, the Authority's Environmental Project Coordinator.

Executive Committee

Chairman
Kenneth A. Smee

President
Gordon W. Patterson

Vice President
James W. Keenan

Gordon R. Baker, Q.C.
James M. Cameron
William R. Herridge, Q.C.
William R. Livingston
Wayne L. Naughty
Thomas R. Webb*

Fundraising Committees
Norman O. Lee

Secretary-Treasurer
William A. McLean

Executive Coordinator
Waneeta Robertson

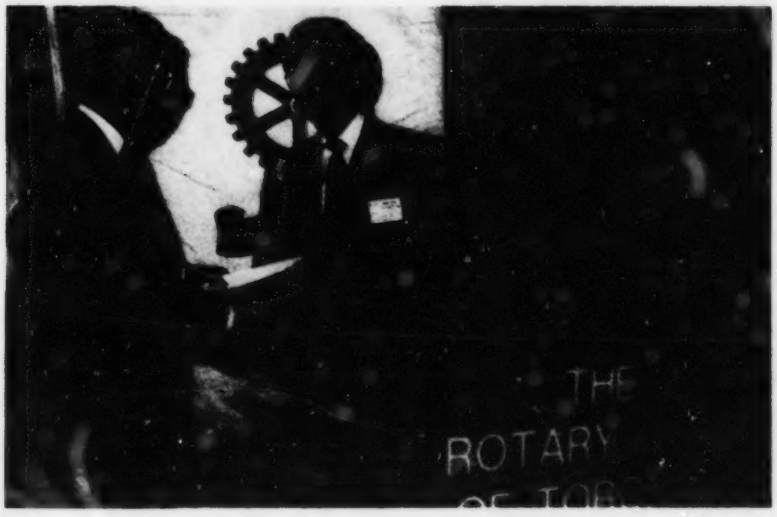
Members/Directors

Robert W. Babensee, C.A.
Gordon R. Baker, Q.C.
James M. Cameron
Harvey H. Clare
Robert S. Gillespie
William B. Granger
William R. Herridge, Q.C.
James W. Keenan
Arthur D. Latornell*
William R. Livingston
John A. McGinnis*
William B. Misener
Wayne L. Naughty, C.A.
Donna M. Patterson
Gordon W. Patterson
Kenneth A. Smee
Kip Van Kempen*
Thomas R. Webb*
Leonard R. Woolsey

Directors Emeritus

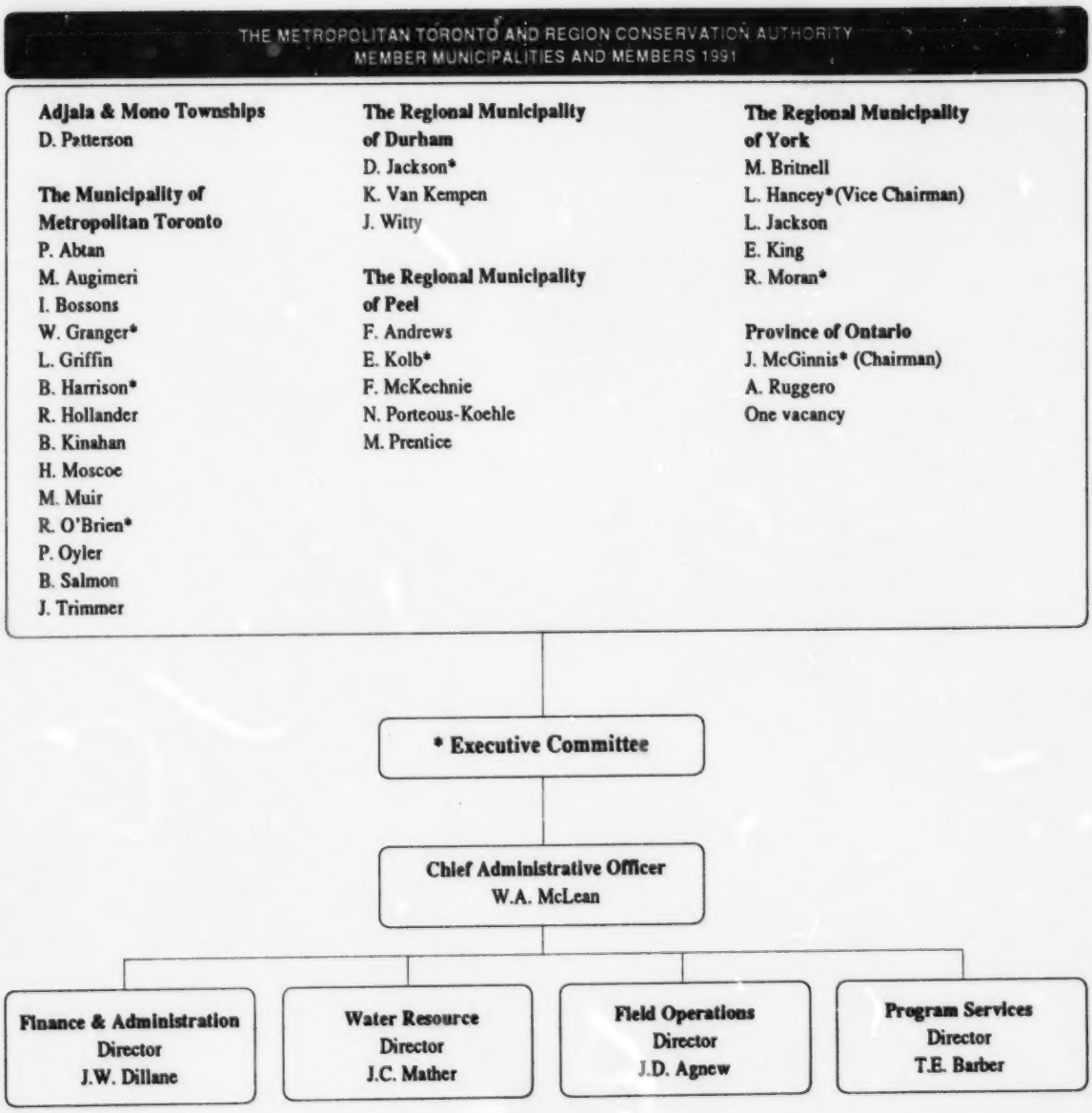
Edna Gardner*
Florence Gell
Thomas R. Webb*

* part-year



In September 1991, Walter Thompson, President of The Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation (right), presented Kenneth A. Smee, Chairman of The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto, with a donation to be applied toward tree and shrub plantings on the Don.

Organization Chart



Advisory Boards

Finance & Administration

Dick O'Brien, Chairman
Jim Witty, Vice Chairman
Patrick Abtan
Maria Augimeri
Brian Harrison
Eldred King
Frank McKechnie
Peter Oyler

Water & Related Land Management

Don Jackson, Chairman
Lois Griffin, Vice Chairman
Ila Bossons
Lois Hancey
Roger Hollander
Blake Kinahan
Ron Moran
Maja Prentice
Bev Salmon
Joyce Trimmer
Kip Van Kempen

Conservation & Related Land Management

Emil Kolb, Chairman
Frank Andrews, Vice Chairman
Margaret Britnell
Bill Granger
Lorna Jackson
Howard Moscoe
Marie Muir
Donna Patterson
Nancy Porteous-Koehle
Al Ruggero

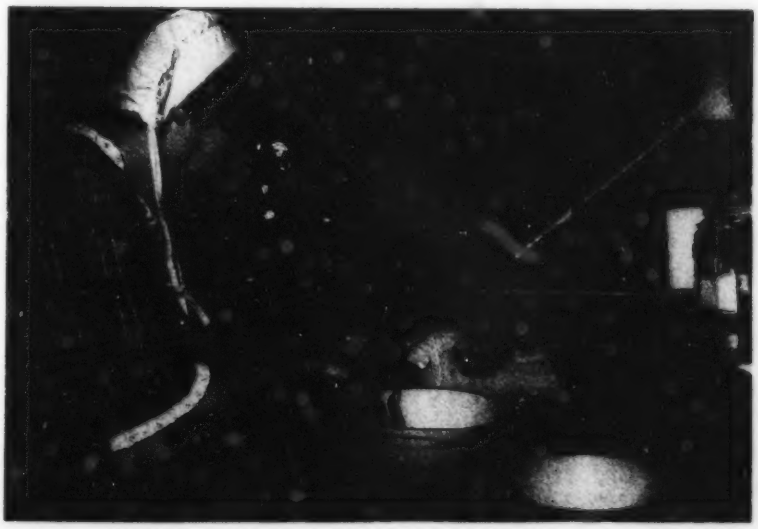
Total Visitations

CONSERVATION AREAS & FOREST & WILDLIFE AREAS	HECTARES	1957-1990	1991	TOTAL
Albion Hills	459	5,203,376	74,349	5,277,725
Black Creek	34	7,421,404	236,119	7,657,523
Boyd	94	6,122,853	70,852	6,193,705
Bruce's Mill	92	4,077,805	131,316	4,209,121
Claireville	389	1,848,388	6,652	1,855,040
Claremont	160	413,877	--	413,877
Cold Creek	189	1,004,900	4,449	1,009,349
Glen Haffy	325	1,654,286	27,224	1,681,510
Greenwood	283	1,997,089	33,859	2,030,948
Heart Lake	169	4,623,086	70,139	4,693,225
Humber Trails	20	91,950	--	91,950
Indian Line Campground	29	883,678	31,344	915,022
Kortright	162	943,315	111,562	1,054,877
Lower Rouge	69	247,782	--	247,782
Milne	119	208,759	--	208,759
Palgrave	229	187,423	1,527	188,950
Petticoat Creek	68	1,620,738	115,451	1,736,189
Woodbridge	31	364,002	--	364,002
Total	2,921	38,914,711	914,843	39,829,554

School children and grown-ups share a maple syrup moment at Kortright near Kleinburg.

Educational Program Participants

FACILITY	1990	1991
Conservation Field Centres		
Albion Hills	2,550	2,762
Albion Hills/Etobicoke Centre	2,560	1,705
Claremont	3,250	3,016
Boyd	2,270	2,097
Lake St. George	4,450	4,268
Cold Creek/Claremont	3,600	2,935
Black Creek Pioneer Village		
Educational Tours	55,900	47,130
Pioneer Life Program	12,000	9,722
Dickson Hill School Program	4,304	3,782
Kortright		
Educational Programs	67,500	63,842
Bruce's Mil		
Maple Syrup Educational Program	6,400	7,478
Total	164,784	148,737



The educational program "Many Hands Make Light Work" gives children a unique opportunity to experience everyday life in a 19th-century village.

Erosion Control Projects

SITE	STRUCTURES PROTECTED	COST	FUNDING	LOCATION	MUNICIPALITY	NOTES
Bellamy Ravine	25 houses	$70,000	55% MNR 13% Metro 32% Scar.	Scar. Bluffs	Scarborough	Special funding arrangements due to local drainage benefits.
Guildwood Parkway - Phase II	30 houses	$280,000	55/45*	Scar. Bluffs	Scarborough	
Carmel Ct. & Harrington Cr.	3 houses	$172,000	55/45*	Don River	North York	$5,000 contributions from owners.
Kingsbury Cr.	8 houses	$330,000	55/45*	Scar. Bluffs	Scarborough	
South Marine Dr.	25 houses	$128,000	55/45*	Scar. Bluffs	Scarborough	
Fishleigh Dr.	29 houses	$288,000	55/45*	Scar. Bluffs	Scarborough	
Birch Ave.	1 house & roadway	$55,000	55/45*	Don River	Richmond Hill	

** In the chart, funding for several programs is listed as "55/45" - 55 per cent funding from the Province, 45 per cent from Metro Toronto and /or the pertinent regional government.*

Authority Planting

PLANTING	PRIVATE LANDS	AUTHORITY LANDS	MUNICIPAL LANDS	TOTAL
Deciduous Tree and Shrub Planting				
Caliper Trees	85	253	589	927
Bare Root Trees	808	1,494	4,643	6,945
Bare Root Shrubs	3,167	9,472	19,309	31,948
Balled & Burlapped Trees	102	785	267	1,154
Reforestation	54,490	109,565	3,000	167,055
Total	58,652	121,569	27,808	208,029

Lands Acquired by Watershed as of December 31, 1991

WATERSHED	FORESTRY	NIAGARA ESCARPMENT	FOREST & WILDLIFE AREA	CONS. AREA	WATERFRONT	FLOOD CONT. & WATER CONS.	TOTAL HECTARES
Etobicoke				169		202	371
Mimico Creek						40	40
Humber River	756	172	318	1,745		3,557	6,548
Don River				4		872	876
Highland Creek				48		340	388
Rouge River				108		983	1,091
Duffins Creek	38		1,190	436		464	2,128
Petticoat Creek				72		9	81
Carruthers Creek						17	17
Lake Ontario Waterfront				20	1,219		1,239
Total	794	172	1,508	2,602	1,219	6,484	12,779

Land Acquisition as of December 31, 1991

WATERSHED	FORESTRY	NIAGARA ESCARPMENT	FOREST & WILDLIFE AREA	CONS. AREA	WATERFRONT	FLOOD CONT. & WATER CONS.	TOTAL HECTARES
Up to and including 1990	794	172	1,079	2,602	1,219	6,390	12,256
Acquired during 1991			429			102	531
Adjustments, due to sales, abandonments, transfers, etc.						8	8
Total	794	172	1,508	2,602	1,219	6,484	12,779

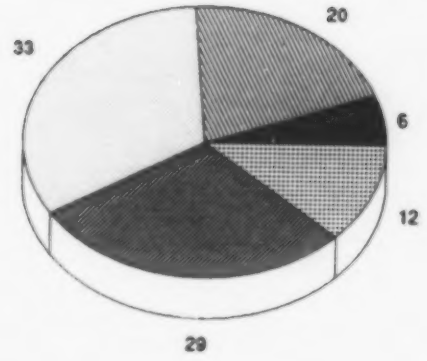
1991 Budget

Sources of Funding*

Province of Ontario (Ministry of Natural Resources)	$8,785,300	23%
Province of Ontario (Other Ministries)	955,300	3%
Municipal Levy - General	8,082,300	21%
Municipal Levy - Capital	5,074,400	13%
User Fees and Sales	8,263,700	22%
Reserves	1,345,000	3%
Donations - Conservation Foundation	36,000	1%
Other Revenues	5,500,000	14%
	$38,042,000	

Allocation of Funds*

Finance & Administration		
Administration	$ 2,353,600	6%
Water & Related Land Management		
Program Administration		
Operations & Maintenance	7,633,500	20%
Planning & Development	12,724,900	33%
Conservation & Related Land Management		
Program Administration		
Operations & Maintenance	10,876,900	29%
Planning & Development	4,453,100	12%
	$38,042,000	



**Excluding Project for the Acquisition of the Canada Post Property*

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of
The Metropolitan Toronto and
Region Conservation Authority

We have audited, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the financial statements of **The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority** for the year ended December 31, 1991 which were prepared in accordance with accounting principles prescribed for Ontario Conservation Authorities as explained in note 1 to the financial statements, and have reported thereon without reservation to the members on February 14, 1992. Our audit included the accompanying balance sheet, statement of operations and deficit and notes to financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet, statement of operations and deficit and notes to financial statements fairly summarize the related information contained in the full financial statements which we audited.

Ernst + Young

Toronto, Canada,
February 14, 1992.

Chartered Accountants

The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
Established under the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario

BALANCE SHEET

As at December 31 — Statement 1

	1991 $	1990 $
ASSETS		
Cash and short-term investments	**3,481,854**	6,486,552
Receivables		
Ministry of Natural Resources transfer payments	**1,355,039**	1,397,287
Municipal levies	**165,268**	—
Other	**2,448,830**	1,474,806
Inventory	**421,696**	447,660
Temporary investment in property *[note 3]*	**460,000**	528,000
	8,332,687	10,334,305
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued charges	**2,077,235**	2,148,662
Deferred revenue		
Municipal levies	**395,670**	715,387
Other	**2,013,339**	848,386
Total liabilities	**4,486,244**	3,712,435
Equity		
Reserves	**4,015,924**	6,862,783
Deficit *[statement 2]*	**(169,481)**	(240,913)
Total equity	**3,846,443**	6,621,870
Contingent liabilities and commitments *[note 4]*		
	8,332,687	10,334,305

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the Authority:

Chairman — Secretary-Treasurer

The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND DEFICIT

Year ended December 31 — Statement 2

	1991 Budget $	1991 Actual $	1990 Actual $
REVENUE			
Government grants			
MNR transfer payments	16,785,305	6,077,168	11,065,087
Provincial - other	955,300	1,106,374	877,295
Provincial - other (repayment) *[note 2[a]]*	(750,000)	(750,000)	—
Municipal			
General levies	8,082,337	8,082,337	7,388,577
Special levies	13,074,410	2,186,876	12,413,414
Other	—	103,678	117,698
User fees and sales			
Conservation areas	1,402,605	1,848,104	1,762,960
Conservation services	281,200	263,148	242,000
Black Creek Pioneer Village	2,820,500	2,484,114	2,599,935
Conservation education	2,335,410	2,269,334	2,106,219
Rental properties	527,000	483,028	499,657
Interest income			
General	162,000	149,624	204,523
Allocated to reserves	—	364,199	1,200,912
The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto	36,050	754,957	55,031
Sale of properties			
Proceeds, net of revenue deferred for site rehabilitation and relocation *[note 2[b]]*	1,850,000	3,303,069	12,052,287
Site rehabilitation and relocation	—	212,118	—
Tipping fees	550,000	301,643	1,058,809
Donations and sundry	185,000	196,186	272,776
Special projects	—	1,719,160	1,048,213
	48,297,117	31,155,117	54,965,393
EXPENDITURES			
Administration	2,838,600	2,363,901	2,421,223
Water and related land management	19,108,443	16,745,267	34,146,578
Conservation and recreation land management	31,040,306	13,280,950	12,717,595
Special projects	—	1,719,160	1,048,259
Other			
Vehicle & Equipment	—	(156,078)	166,158
Food service equipment	—	(22,656)	(39,938)
	52,987,349	33,930,544	50,459,875
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year	(4,690,232)	(2,775,427)	4,505,518
Deficit, beginning of year	(240,913)	(240,913)	(73,691)
Appropriations from (to) reserves - net	4,690,232	2,846,859	(4,672,740)
Deficit, end of year	(240,913)	(169,481)	(240,913)

See accompanying notes

The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 1991

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Accounting Principles and Financial Reporting Requirements for Conservation Authorities in Ontario as approved by the Association of Conservation Authorities of Ontario and the Ministry of Natural Resources [the "MNR"]. The more significant accounting policies are summarized as follows:

Accrual accounting

The accrual basis of accounting is used to record expenditures in the period in which costs are incurred and to recognize revenue in the period in which it is earned, except that sick leave benefits are recorded as an expenditure when paid *[note 4[b]]*.

Deferred revenue

Grants, municipal levies and other amounts received in advance of directly related expenditures are deferred and are recognized as revenue when the expenditures are incurred.

Capital expenditures

The cost of capital assets is charged to operations in the year of acquisition.

Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost and replacement cost.

Special projects

Special projects represent unbudgeted expenditures incurred as a result of receiving special unbudgeted revenue principally from the provincial and federal governments and municipalities.

Vehicle & Equipment and food service equipment

The Authority operates vehicles and equipment. Internal charges for the use of the vehicles and equipment are made to the various projects of the Authority and are included in the applicable expenditure categories. Charges are approved as follows:

Vehicle & Equipment - at rates approved by the MNR.

Food service equipment - at a rate approved annually with the adoption of the food service operation program budget.

Actual expenditures incurred, net of recoveries from these internal charges, are charged or credited to operations as other expenditures on the statement of operations and deficit.

2. RESERVE FOR FUNDS HELD UNDER PROVINCIAL REVENUE SHARING POLICY

The Authority is required by the MNR to segregate the proceeds on the sale of properties or other non-renewable resources. As permitted by the MNR, the funds are held in a reserve and are applied to approved projects. Interest at prevailing market rates is imputed on the unspent balance in the reserve.

The appropriations to (from) the reserve for 1991 and 1990 are based upon the following transactions recorded in operations:

	1991 $	1990 $
ADDITIONS		
Proceeds from sale of properties	**3,803,069**	12,052,287
Interest	**273,239**	1,086,165
	4,076,308	13,138,452
APPLICATIONS		
Land acquisition project	**1,334,280**	8,483,026
Waterfront development	**138,627**	—
Conservation area redevelopment - Boyd	**39,993**	6,596
Extension of the Glen Major Forest and Wildlife Area	**4,079,891**	554
Repayment of provincial grant [a]	**750,000**	—
Revenue deferred for site rehabilitation [b]	**500,000**	—
	6,842,791	8,490,176
Appropriations to (from) reserve	**(2,766,483)**	4,648,276

[a] Repayment of Provincial grant

During 1989, the Authority purchased a property as part of the Niagara Escarpment land acquisition project. The purchase was funded by grants received from a provincial agency, the Ontario Heritage Foundation [the "Foundation"]. The terms of the grant required the Authority to reimburse the Foundation an amount of $750,000 if the Authority chose to retain the entire property. During 1991, the Authority decided to retain the property and paid an amount of $750,000 to the Foundation from funds approved for this purpose held in the reserve. This amount has been recorded in the statement of operations and deficit as a reduction in provincial grant revenue.

[b] Revenue deferred for site rehabilitation

During 1990, the Authority obtained MNR approval to purchase a property in Toronto's Don River Valley for an approved purchase price of $6,550,000 from funds held under provincial revenue sharing policy. Under the final terms of the purchase, the Authority paid the vendor $6,050,000 and agreed to undertake, on its own behalf, a site rehabilitation project with an estimated cost of $500,000. The initial purchase cost of $6,050,000 and related costs of acquisition were recorded as land acquisition project costs and were applied to reduce the reserve in 1990. In 1991, an amount of $500,000 has been appropriated from the reserve and recorded as deferred revenue on the balance sheet to fund the eventual rehabilitation of this site.

3. TEMPORARY INVESTMENT IN PROPERTY

The Authority purchased a property in 1990 in order that a project could be completed on adjacent land. It is the intention of the Authority to resell the property in 1992. The property is carried at its estimated realizable value, net of estimated selling costs. During the year, a provision of $68,000, reflecting a decline in the estimated realizable value, was recorded as a reduction in the property's carrying value and was charged to water and related land management expenditures in the statement of operations and deficit.

4. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS

[a] Legal actions and claims

The Authority received a Statement of Claim during 1989 naming the Province of Ontario, the Authority and the vendor of a property as defendants under a legal action claiming damages of $14,760,000. During the year, the Authority received written notification that the plaintiff wishes to release the Authority from this legal action. As a result, no provision has been made in these financial statements for this claim.

The Authority has received Statements of Claim as defendant under various legal actions resulting from fatalities, personal injuries and flooding on or adjacent to its properties. The Authority maintains insurance coverage against such risks and has notified its insurers of the legal actions and claims. It is not possible at this time to determine the outcome of these claims and therefore no provision has been made in these financial statements.

[b] Sick leave

Prior to 1981, the Authority provided sick leave arrangements for all full-time employees, under which unused benefits were accumulated and were payable upon termination of employment after a qualifying length of service. Existing benefits accumulated to December 31, 1980 are paid upon termination of employment or to supplement short-term disability benefits. At December 31, 1991, the maximum potential liability for such payments was approximately $746,000 [1990 - $766,000].

5. 1991 BUDGET FIGURES

The 1991 budget figures included in these financial statements are those adopted by the Authority on March 22, 1991.

This attractive graphic symbol is the corporate logo for The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Its contemporary design reflects the forward thrust of the Authority's programs and achievements.

It effectively combines three elements associated with conservation in its design and colours. The modified triangular shape is an accepted topographical marking used to designate a boundary, a point of elevation or a place of special interest. The alternating line was commonly used in ancient times to symbolize water on a river bed. The two colours, blue bottom and green top, represent grass, trees and water - three components closely associated with conservation.

The logo appears on stationery, signs, vehicles, crests, uniforms and printed materials produced by Metro Region Conservation.

This Annual Report
has been printed on
acid free recycled paper.